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~~This information was also cables in GFRAN~~  
The meeting took place at 8:00 PM on 9 September 1953. Rudel was accompanied to the meeting by Carotid, Kurt Eigenbrodt, Jr., a DRP candidate for Frankfurt, at whose house Rudel stayed during his visit to Frankfurt.

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# **INFORMATION REPORT** **SECURITY INFORMATION**

COUNTRY West Germany

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Well-informed German Rightist.

- After the West German federal elections were over, the former Colonel Hans Ulrich Radel held a critique of the campaign before some of the defeated German Reich's Party (DRP) candidates and a number of former officers. At this meeting he outlined some of his future plans and evaluated Germany's international position.
- Radel maintained that the West German Government was lax in taking advantage of its excellent bargaining position between East and West and that men of greater determination could have fashioned an independent German foreign policy and a positive policy toward German reunification long ago. This would require a willingness to exploit the obvious weak points in the foreign policies of the United States and the USSR.
- Radel opposed strongly any rearmament of Germany at this time and any German alignment on the side of either the West or the East. The United States' only desire in its plans to rearm the Federal Republic was to make Germany the battleground in the event of war and at the same time to keep West German forces weak enough to keep the country in perpetual subservience. Ten German divisions would only aggravate the international situation and not stay any Russian plans of aggression. If the Russians wanted to roll westwards, neither the occupation troops nor the contemplated German divisions nor a combination of the two could stop them. There was ten or fifteen years' time to make Germany strong, because the Russians do not intend to attack until they have consolidated their conquests in Asia unless they are provoked.
- Radel pronounced the EDC treaties a dead issue and claimed good reason to believe that Washington and Bonn were exploring already the possibility of a bilateral defense treaty calling for the formation of an independent German army. As soon as such an army became too strong, a preventive war by the Russians would have to be reckoned with. The reestablishment of a German army is one of the ways to reconstitute German independence, but it must be so arranged that it would not bring war to Europe but help place the eventual conflict between the East and the West elsewhere.

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5. Rüdell reiterated that he had never accepted a nomination and had backed the DRP only because he considered Werner Haumann one of the most mature and best informed politicians in Germany. He never believed that the extreme Right would get a strong representation in the new Bundestag, but that the Nationalist opposition should at all times have a few qualified spokesmen and observers in parliament. He hoped that the elections in Haumann's district would be re-run after completion of the litigation concerning Haumann's candidacy.
6. Rüdell condemned the former officers now cooperating with the Bonn Government as spineless professionals without political convictions and exhorted his audience to rally all veterans to the support of the DRP. The DRP as it stands now is a dying organization. The Right needed a rallying point, and if enough of the right men supported any of the small Rightist parties now in existence, they soon would be in a position to control it and fashion it into an instrument of a new wave of German nationalism. The DRP would be just as good as any party for that purpose and, in fact, less objectionable than any party known to him.
7. In answer to many detailed questions, Rüdell stated that he was not a politician but a soldier and would have to refer political questions to Haumann. In conclusion he announced that he planned to visit the United States shortly and would attempt to influence a change in United States policy towards German nationalists during his stay.